



R.A.R.E. II

EXPLANATION

- Existing wilderness and primitive areas
- Roadless and undeveloped areas
- Congressionally-designated study areas and Administration endorsed wilderness proposals
- Areas suggested for addition or deletion by the public

001 Region 2 - Area Number

Area Guide Boundary

01-912 Region 1 - Area Number

001 Region 2 - Area Number

04-901 Region 4 - Area Number

* Unless otherwise shown, all area numbers are preceded by a 2 (Region 2)

OIL AND GAS RESOURCE POTENTIAL

- HIGH**--Geologic environment highly favorable for discovery of oil and gas fields. Area is near established production and has potential for economic accumulations of oil and gas in stratigraphic and (or) structural traps
- MODERATE**--Geologic environment very favorable for discovery of oil and gas fields. Located in an area of known reservoir rocks, hydrocarbon-source beds, and potential stratigraphic and (or) structural traps. Generally tracts are in areas of sparse drill control which have yielded oil and gas "shows" but not adjacent to existing production. Includes some areas with high potential for presently subeconomic accumulations of oil and gas
- LOW**--Geologic environment interpreted to have low or no potential for accumulations of oil and gas. Includes areas of thin sedimentary rocks, poor hydrocarbon source beds and (or) reservoir rocks. Areas of exposed Precambrian rocks generally have no potential
- INDETERMINATE**--Data are not presently available to the U.S. Geological Survey for adequate analysis of resource potential

OIL OR GAS FIELDS--Includes only those fields adjacent to RARE II tracts. Location of fields from the Energy Resources Map of Colorado (1977)

DISCUSSION

This map was compiled in December 1977 in response to a request from the U.S. Forest Service for an evaluation of the oil and gas potential of proposed Roadless Area Review and Evaluation (RARE II) in the National Forests and Grasslands of Colorado. The Roadless Areas and adjacent land covered by the RARE II Inventory are shown on a published map by the U.S. Forest Service (1977) prepared as a base for mineral resource and other inventories; the configuration of these areas has subsequently been changed somewhat. The area changes are not shown on this map and the added tracts have not been evaluated by the U.S. Geological Survey.

This map evaluates the RARE II tracts for fluid hydrocarbons and does not include areas with potential for hydrocarbons in tar sands or oil shales.

The basis for the classification is fundamentally geologic. It takes into consideration the known accumulations of oil and gas, both producing and shut in. The analysis is heavily weighted toward the known distribution of reservoir rocks, hydrocarbon source beds, geologic history and stratigraphic and structural style favorable for oil and gas accumulations in this part of the Rocky Mountain Region.

Well control is generally sparse in these areas rated as having moderate potential. Future drilling will have a reasonable expectation of discovering hydrocarbons in these areas. As additional information from future exploration activity becomes available, some areas rated as having moderate potential will be reduced to low potential, and others will be upgraded to high potential. Future increases in demand for oil and gas and price increases for these commodities will probably move some areas, rated as moderate, into the high category.

This map is modified from the compilation which was delivered to the U.S. Forest Service as an administrative report in December 1977. It is being made available in open file in response to public request.

SELECTED REFERENCES

Tweto, Ogden, 1976, Preliminary geologic map of Colorado: U.S. Geological Survey Miscellaneous Field Studies Map MF-786, scale 1:500,000.

U.S. Forest Service, 1977, Roadless and undeveloped area inventory, RARE II, National Forests, Colorado, scale 1:500,000.

U.S. Geological Survey, 1935, Geologic map of Colorado: U.S. Geological Survey map, scale 1:500,000.

U.S. Geological Survey and Colorado Geological Survey, 1977, Energy resources map of Colorado: U.S. Geological Survey Miscellaneous Investigations Map I-1039, scale 1:500,000.

U.S. Geological Survey
OPEN FILE REPORT
This map is preliminary and has not been edited or reviewed for conformity with Geological Survey standards or nomenclature.

Compiled in 1977
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PROPOSED ROADLESS AREAS IN NATIONAL FORESTS OF COLORADO

ordon L. Dolton

STATE of COLORADO